

Macedonia and its people, not only as they mourn the loss of their President, but as they continue on the path of peace and prosperity he was leading them at the very moment he died.

In closing, I wish also to express my prayers and personal condolences to family and many friends of Boris Trajkovski.

Madam Speaker, I join my colleague Mr. SOUDER and others in supporting this Resolution and expressing deep sadness over the sudden and tragic death of Boris Trajkovski, the President of Macedonia.

In the 1990s, I served as a Co-Chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Helsinki Commission. During that time, the Commission, the Congress, the American government and indeed the international community viewed the conflicts associated with Yugoslavia's demise as a foreign policy priority. In Croatia, Bosnia and then Kosovo, thousands upon thousands were killed, raped or tortured while millions were displaced in ethnic cleansing campaigns. The violence, of course, would reverberate through the region, replacing trust and cooperation with fear and hatred in ethnically diverse communities.

Macedonia, as a republic of the former Yugoslavia, was caught in the midst of this turmoil, but it held itself together. Even when fighting erupted within its own borders, many of that country's leaders worked to find solutions to underlying grievances and brought peace back to Macedonia. Of course, international involvement was essential, but so was the presence of people like Boris Trajkovski, who would reach across ethnic lines and work to help all the citizens of Macedonia, not just those of their own ethnicity.

Boris Trajkovski, in my view, understood what it meant to be a head of state, to represent the country, all of its people, and all of their aspirations. Since 1999, he moved his country forward.

I hope, Madam Speaker, that the people of Macedonia will find not just sorrow in President Trajkovski's death but also the strength to make his vision of a democratic, tolerant and prosperous Macedonia a reality.

They can count on support of the United States to that end. As Secretary of State Colin Powell said on February 26, the day Trajkovski's plane crashed in Bosnia, the Macedonian President "leaves behind a legacy of U.S.-Macedonian friendship that has never been closer or stronger."

In closing, let me also express my deepest condolences to President Trajkovski's wife, Vilma, his children Sara and Stefan, and other family members and friends.

Poverty is a fact of life for as many as 400 million Indians who survive on less than \$1 a day. Illiteracy rates, while decreasing, are still high. And the health, economic and security challenges posed by the HIV/AIDS virus may be the most important issue facing India today.

Madam Speaker, as our delegation conveyed during our recent visit, and I was want to convey today, the United States is India's partner as she works to address these and other challenges on the way to realizing her potential of becoming a true world power.

I returned home with a renewed commitment to ensure that the United States continues to provide economic development assistance for health care and food for the

needy, improved energy efficiency and environmental restoration efforts. And we will of course honor our pledge to take the lead in the global effort to combat the scourge of HIV/AIDS, through the provision of medicine, volunteers, and much-needed financial resources.

Above all, we must foster a deeper appreciation for the shared values and beliefs that lie at the heart of our two great democracies, and an understanding of the common principles and interests that bind us together.

This Resolution is a celebration of India's Republic Day, but also a recognition of our strengthening relationship.

I urge all of my colleagues to support it.

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 540, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3717, BROADCAST DECENCY ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2004

Mrs. MYRICK (during consideration of H. Res. 540), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108-436) on the resolution (H. Res. 554) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3717) to increase the penalties for violations by television and radio broadcasters of the prohibitions against transmission of obscene, indecent, and profane language, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 46 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1943

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GERLACH) at 7 o'clock and 43 minutes p.m.

#### PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF PROGRAMS UNDER THE SMALL BUSINESS ACT AND THE SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT ACT

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3915) to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 through May 21, 2004, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3915

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. ADDITIONAL TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF PROGRAMS UNDER THE SMALL BUSINESS ACT AND THE SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT ACT OF 1958.

The authorization for any program, authority, or provision, including any pilot program, that was extended through March 15, 2004, by section 1(a) of Public Law 108-172 is further extended through April 2, 2004, under the same terms and conditions.

#### SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN FEE AUTHORIZATIONS.

Section 503(f) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 697(f)) is amended by striking "October 1, 2003" and inserting "May 21, 2004".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. MANZULLO) and the gentleman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. MANZULLO).

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this is a short and simple bill. H.R. 3915 authorizes a general extension of all programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act from its current ending date of March 15, 2004, until April 2 of 2004. This will allow SBA programs that expire on Monday to continue to operate.

In particular, these include the surety bond program which enables small businesses to obtain surety bonds in order to bid on government contracts, cosponsorship authority so that the SBA can host events or print publications with the private sector, and procurement of assistance that is provided to certain small businesses.

H.R. 3915 as amended also authorizes the SBA to charge fees for the 504 loan program with a certified development company until May 21 of 2004.

□ 1945

This program operates solely based on the fees charged by the SBA to certified development companies. If such fees are not extended, there will be no way for certified development companies to make the type of long-term loans that small businesses rely on to create new jobs. The 504 program operates totally upon user fees and has not received an appropriation since 1996.